

**County Boards of Education – Establishing Regional Career and Technical Education Schools –  
Authority  
Senate Bill 794**

**Before the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs**

**March 3, 2020  
Position: Support**

The University of Maryland Shore Regional Health is pleased to offer its support of Senate Bill 794, which will authorize and support the efforts of a coalition of County Boards of Education in the mid-Eastern Shore region to establish and operate a Career and Technical Education School.

The need is great for career and technical programs to develop and support our future workforce and economic development in this region. These schools often require expertise, special technical instruction and equipment and financial support which will be more easily borne by multiple jurisdictions, as envisioned in this legislation.

UM Shore Regional Health is a proponent of regional programs, having seen firsthand how such expense and overhead sharing can be beneficial in small jurisdictions. Such collaborations allow programs that are otherwise out of reach for one or more school systems-- and thus out of reach for many students-- to be affordable for all.

Further, the skilled workforce of the future is awaiting development and is significantly needed on the Eastern Shore, particularly in the Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, Talbot and Dorchester counties. From health care, automotive and construction to computer science, hospitality and biotech, the jobs of the future need to be developed here so that young people stay and work here. The establishment of a regional Career and Technical Education School is an important step in the right direction.

We urge a favorable report on SB 794.

Sincerely,  
Kenneth D. Kozel, FACHE  
President and CEO  
UM Shore Regional Health